



Blue Ridge Mountain Inn

Stanardsville, Virginia

Virginia Green is the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) initiative to promote pollution prevention (P2) practices in all aspects of the tourism and hospitality industry. **Virginia Green Lodging** is focused on the P2 opportunities within hotels, resorts, and other hospitality operations to be aware of their impact on the environment and to take steps to reduce these impacts. *Virginia Green* is a non-regulatory program, and participation is completely voluntary and free of charge.

Blue Ridge Mountain Inn

The Blue Ridge Mountain Inn is located in the heart of the Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains and has five tastefully-decorated rooms. It is surrounded by nature and Shenandoah National Park.



Why did we "go green"?

CORE ACTIVITIES for Green Lodging

“☑” This symbol indicates a required activity for Virginia Green Lodging facilities. Virginia Green participants *self-certify* that these activities are in place, and they provide additional specifics on other activities. Visitors to the Ivy Cottage on the River can expect the following *green practices*:

☑ **Optional Linen Service.** Virginia Green Lodging facilities must have some sort of system in place that allows guests to not have their sheets and towels changed every day.

- House cleaners are trained on process of optional linen service
- Purchased water-/energy-efficient washers and dryers (www.energystar.gov)
- Use non-phosphate, non-toxic, and biodegradable laundry detergents.
- We minimize the use of bleach and chlorinated chemicals whenever possible

☑ **Recycling and Waste Reduction.** Virginia Green Lodging facilities must provide guests the opportunity to recycle during their stay. Recycling should be highly visible to guests with clear signage. Participants are encouraged to have a comprehensive recycling program, subject to market availability, etc.

- Recycling Glass, Aluminum Cans, Plastic Bottles, Office Paper, Toner Cartridges, Newspapers, Cardboard, Packing Supplies, Fluorescent Lamps, Batteries, and Electronics.
- Composting of excess food!
- Track overall waste bills
- We have bulk soap dispensers
- Fill up shampoo bottles
- Instruct housekeeping to save and reuse unopened items
- Eliminated use of Styrofoam products
- Use dishware and glassware instead of disposables
- Purchase recycled-content toilet paper and paper towels
- Implement effective food inventory system to minimize waste
- Purchase locally-grown produce and other foods
- Organic and “sustainably-grown” food
- Electronic correspondence and forms
- 2-sided copying and printing

- Purchase durable equipment and furniture
- Reused building materials and those from sustainable sources
- Latex paints
- Reuse of paint thinners and proper disposal of residuals
- Preventative maintenance of all appliances, HVAC, plumbing, and vehicles
- Minimized use of pesticides and herbicides

☒ **Water Conservation.** The facility must have a plan for conserving water that should consider plumbing modifications and landscaping.

- We're tracking overall water usage and wastewater bills
- Preventative maintenance of drips and leaks
- Water-flow metering to discover leaks and areas of high use
- High efficiency dishwashers
- Use dry clean up methods over water-based methods
- Microfiber technology mops
- Low flow toilets and low flow restrictors on faucets and showerheads
- Effective landscape management plan which utilizes drought tolerant species, metering, and ran gauges, and minimizes lawn areas.
- Minimization of impervious areas
- Vegetative buffers around streams and ponds



☒ **Energy Conservation.** The facility must have a plan in place that encourages replacement of lighting and equipment to energy-efficient alternatives.

- Tracking overall energy bills and set a numeric goal to reduce
- Use high efficiency compact fluorescent light bulbs in rooms and spotlights
- High efficiency heating & air conditioning
- Ceiling fans
- Lighting sensors
- Purchase EnergyStar computers and appliances
- Directional lighting in parking lots and walkways

☒ **Green Events Package.** The facility must offer a “green” or “environmentally-friendly” package for conferences, meetings and other events. Even if the facility only offers occasional, small events, at least recycling will be provided.

- *We don't host events, but recycling and other waste reducing activities are always in place!*

For more information on Blue Ridge Mountain Inn, see www.blueridgemountaininn.com or contact Heather Tusing at innkeeper@blueridgemountaininn.net or 434-566-2555.

For more information on *Virginia Green Lodging* program, www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/virginiagreen or go to www.virginiagreentravel.org.



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